MARYLAND TAMS JOURNAL

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MD TAMS JOURNAL is published four times a year by the Maryland Token and Medal Society, Inc., P. O. Box 644, Gambrills, MD 21054-0644. Meetings are held at various coin shows and conventions throughout the year, See information on future meetings elsewhere in this issue.

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DUES: Dues for Regular, Junior and Organizational membership are $7.50 per year.

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NEXT MEETING: Sat. Sept. 15 – 1 – 3 pm
Shady Side Rural Heritage Society
Captain Salem Avery House
Shady Side, Maryland
(On West River,-AA County)

3 - President's Preamble
4- Minutes of MD TAMS Meeting 3/17/01
5- Maryland Mavericks
6 - Jacob Gminder...Russ Sears
8 - Mt. Pleasant Golf Course Parking Tokens
Richard Kaminski
11 – Maryland Quarter Word Search
Bob Ruby
12 – The Devon Club of Luke Maryland
W. Wallace Stone
16 – Per Chance a Good Token
George Chevallier
17 – MD TAMS Honors the Ravens
18 – MD TAMS Classified
19 – MD TAMS Forms
20 – MD TAMS Now on the Web-Bob- Ruby
ADDENDUM: Maryland Encased Coins
by Millard W. Hajek

MANUSCRIPTS

Manuscripts should be addressed to the Editor. Opinions expressed by the authors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of MD TAMS, its Editor or its Officers. MD TAMS JOURNAL reserves the right to edit or reject any copy.

SOCIETY BUSINESS

Correspondence pertaining to the business affairs of MD TAMS, including membership, change of address, etc., should be addressed to Secretary, P. O. Box 644, Gambrills, MD 21054-0644.

The Maryland Token and Medal Society to help stimulate and maintain interest in the collecting of medals, tokens and other related Exonumia from the State of Maryland and other areas produce THE MARYLAND TAMS JOURNAL. It is strictly a non-profit organization. The Journal is published quarterly: *Spring; Summer; Fall and Winter.*

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DEADLINES:

ISSUE	*DEADLINE*	*ISSUE DATE*
Spring	February 15th	March 21st
Summer	May 15th	June 21st
Fall	August 15th	September 21st
Winter	November 15th	December 21st

We Are On A Roll...

Keep those Articles

Coming In....

THANKS Members!!!

This is Your Journal!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS...

Sat. September 15–
1pm - MD TAMS Meeting
Shady Side Rural Heritage Society
The Capt. Salem Avery House
Shady Side, Maryland

Sat. December 1-11am
Suburban Balt./Wash. Coin Show
Baltimore Convention Center

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PRESIDENT'S PREAMBLE

Well it is summertime again. Many of our members will be traveling both in the State of Maryland as well as to many other interesting and sometimes exotic locations. Since most of our membership is by its very nature interested in history and collecting, please take the opportunity to share with us any interesting new collectible or location you might experience. We always need articles for the Journal and interesting items for Show & Tell at our meetings.

The Maryland Token & Medal Society is currently involved in many new and exciting projects. With this issue of our MD TAMS Journal, you will find the latest in our reference series - a real nice reference by Mill Hajek where he has catalogued all the currently known Maryland Encased Coins. I want to thank Mill for all his hard work as well as thanking those of you who helped Mill by sharing data with him on the items in your collections. This makes a fantastic reference which we will also be sharing with collectors in ACE (the **A**ssociation of **C**ollectors of **E**ncased coins).

At the MD TAMS Annual Meeting (16 June 2001) we are offering for sale to our members for the first time the new reference book produced by Joe Burford and published by MD TAMS that catalogs all the currently known Maryland Elongated coins/tokens. Currently known is not even correct since Joe is already preparing supplemental data on items that have been done since we went to press. This book is a must have for any elongated collector and is a great addition to anyone's Maryland Exonumia Library. We produced 100 copies and they should go fast since they will also be offered to TEC (**T**he **E**longated **C**ollectors) members after MD TAMS members get a chance to order. If anyone has encased or elongated items that are not listed in either of the references above, please send your information to MD TAMS at our PO Box attention either Joe or Mill as appropriate. Part of our reference program is to update these documents periodically.

We also have several give away/sale items coming up based on topical elongated coins/tokens. Your club has been very active and we need your help. We need more reference documents for our series. I have made this plea many times but do not get much response. Please help us catalog some of the Maryland material that is out there. This is what MD TAMS and collecting should be all about. Without this kind of effort so much history and information will be lost with time. Let's try and beat the clock and get it documented for posterity and future collectors who will follow in our hobby footsteps. We all need to pitch in. You do not even have to do it all yourself. There are members who can provide help and advice. Thanks and have a long, safe and prosperous summer of collecting, relaxing and traveling.

Ed Craig
President, MD TAMS

March 17, 2001

Minutes of the MD TAMS meeting held today in Room 301 of the Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD

I-Meeting called to order by President (E.CRAIG) at 11:00am with 22 members and 2 guests in attendance (attendance sheet is attached).
NOTE:One of the guests (Alan HERBERT) briefly spoke on the ANA/its upcoming election.

II-Minutes of the last meeting not read since they had been published in our Journal.

III-Treasurer's Report:Read by Treasurer (R.RUBY); copy attached. Said report to stand unless/until audited.

IV-Committee Reports:

a-Journal:W.MUMFORD advised he is out of articles for our Journal and requested that members write at least one article for it.

b-2003 ANA:J.BOSWELL advised that he will be sending out another letter later this month/early next month.

c-Election:Chairman (W.AYRES) advised there will be at least one new Board of Directors member this time as a previous member was not running for re-election.

d-Elongated Quarters:M.HAJEK advised the year 2000 elongated quarters were now available @ $4 per set.

V-Old Business:None

VI-New Business:

a-E.CRAIG reminded everyone that dues are due.

b-E.CRAIG asked for volunteers to serve on this year's Literary Award Committee (J.BOSWELL & T.KOTCHE responded).

c-E.CRAIG:This year's "Annual Give Aways" are TBA.

d-E.CRAIG:Literary Buck Awards this year were givento:J.BOSWELL,J. BURFORD, E.CRAIG, M.HAJEK, W.MUMFORD, R. RUBY & R.SEARS (in attendance) and R.BURTON, Jr, G.CHEVALLIER, Jr, A.COSGROVE, C.JUDGE, S.McCLUNG & E.TURNES who weren't in attendance (their Awards will be sent to them).

e-Door Prizes

VII-Announcements:

a-J.BOSWELL on ANA nominating form for Remy BOURNE. Motion by J. BOSWELL, 2nd by W.MUMFORD that we nominate R. BOURNE for ANA Governor. Motion passed without opposition.

b-J.BOSWELL on nomination form for the Walt MASON Award. J.BOSWELL nominated R.RUBY as our candidate for this award, 2nd by R.SEARS. Motion passed without opposition.

c-E.CRAIG:We had received a check from BANC for serives by our member at the last BANC Show.

d-J.BOSWELL read miscellaneous correspondence (no action on same).

e-W.AYRES spoke on National Coin Week.

VIII-Show & Tell:

a-R.SEARS:1874 Check signed by two officials of the Baltimore P.D. & a c.1880 Badge.

b-T.KOTCHE:A <u>long</u> "short snorter".

c-J.BURFORD:Miscellaneous "wooden nickels".

d-W.AYRES:Miscellaneous items.

March 17, 2001

Minutes of today's MD TAMS meeting (cont.):

VIII-(Show & Tell):
E-W.STONE:S.S. COSTON (Annapolis, MD) tokens.
F-J.HAMMOND:Metal detecting
G-H.CROW:Miscellaneous MD Sheriff Badges
H-M.HAJEK:CD Badges, etc.
I-R.KAMINSKI:Miscellaneous items.
IX-Raffle Winners:J.OLIVERI, D.HAJEK & B.ROBISON.
X-Break so that members could view auction lots, "stretch their legs", etc.
XI-Auction conducted by R.SEARS, assisted by E.CRAIG ("tabulators" were J.BOSWELL & R.RUBY) which resulted in $7.60 commission--not including donated lots--being added to our Treasury.
NOTE(S):The HAJEKS provided some delicious cookies for the members.

Respectfully Submitted,

James M. Boswell, Sec.

Maryland Mavericks...

We all have a few tokens in our misc. box, unidentified strange little bits of exonumia that we don't know what to do with. Send a description to Jim Boswell and he will list them under the Mavericks listings in our Journal. As you see Mavericks listed if you can identify any of them send your identification to Jim and he will list them under Maryland Mavericks. Jim has a few to list now so please take note:

MM#	Description	Attribution	Attributed By	Attribution Source
152	--KAZMAIER'S GERMANIA BREWERY	Altoona, PA	TAMS #14715	Brewery Book

MM#:438A, B, C & D
NAME(S):D.E.M. & CO.
ATTRIBUTION:D.E. MITCHELL & CO. (Factory on Spesutia Island, Office in Aberdeen, MD)
ATTRIBUTION BY:R-55 (via Canning Label)

MM#:456
NAME(S):KLUNK'S MONROE CAFE
ATTRIBUTION:Baltimore, MD (owned by Wm. A. & Ethel S. KLUNK)
ATTRIBUTION BY:LM-11 (via 1958 CD)

JACOB GMINDER

Baltimore token, medal and police badge maker

By Russ Sears

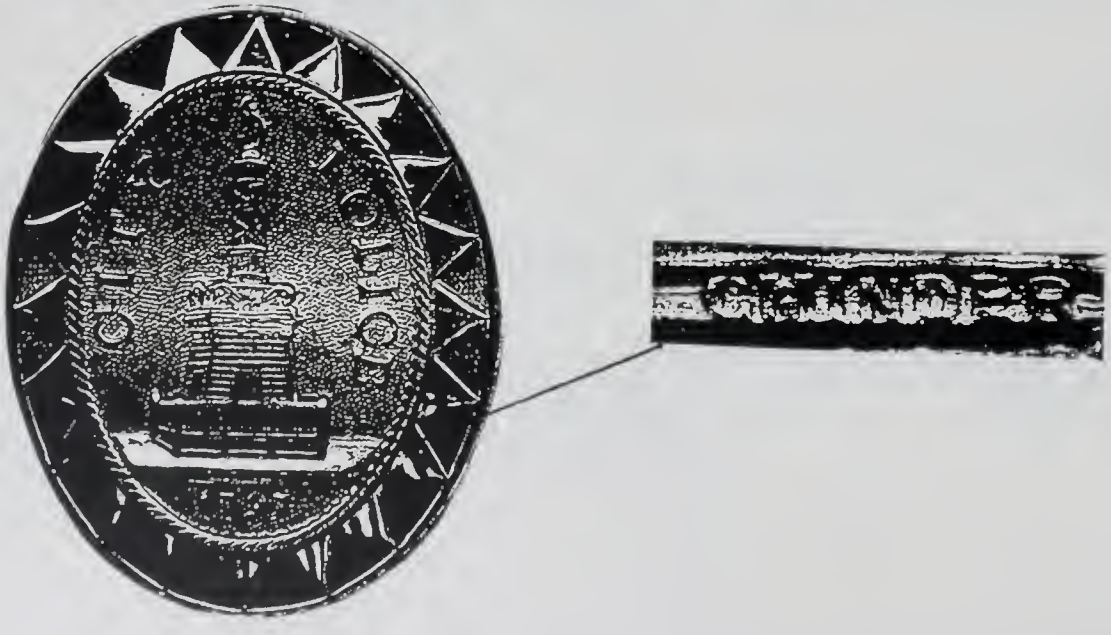
Johann Jacob Gminder was born on April 24, 1831 in Reutlingen, Wuerttemberg, Germany. He is listed in the Baltimore City directory of 1860 as a silver plater and manufacturer of coffin trimmings, located at 10 1/2 S. Calvert Street. In the 1887 directory, his address was changed to 12-14 (was 10) S. Calvert where he remained into the 1890's. The address change of 1887 was due to renumbering, not by a move.

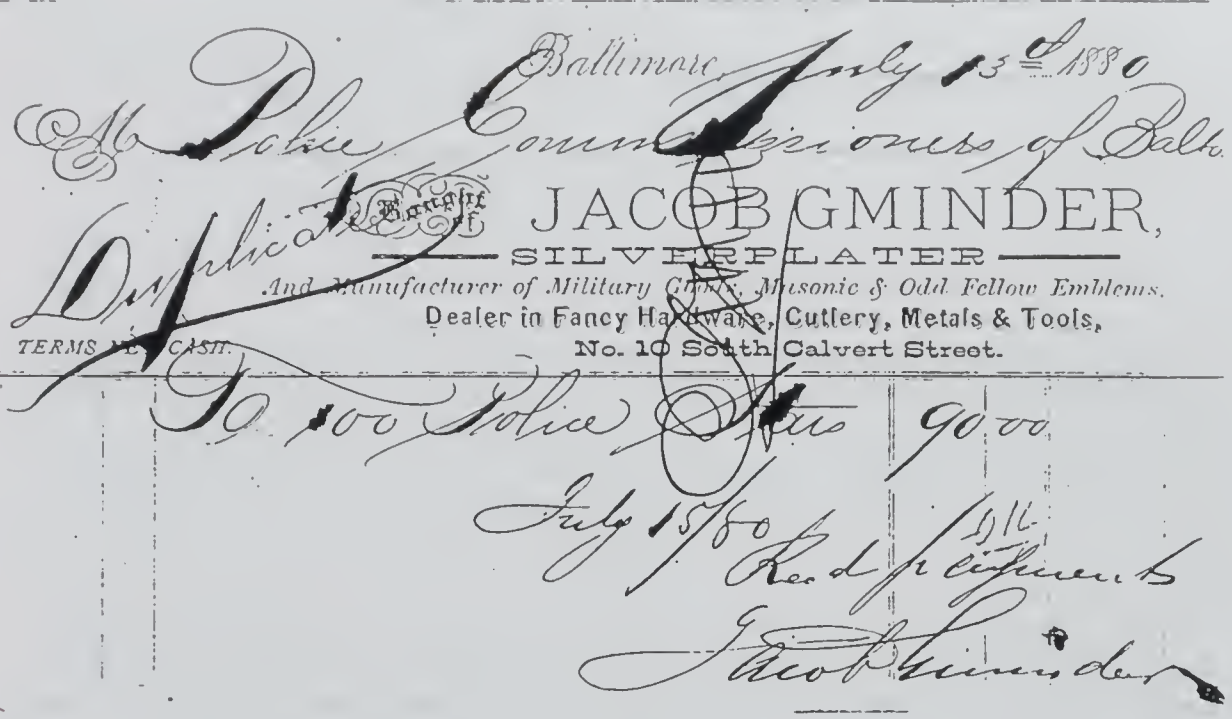
During his career, his occupation was listed as noted above as well as military goods, fancy hardware and society goods manufacturer. While the directories did not list these products, he also produced the token and police badge shown in this article as well as medals (see the illustrated Certification of striking medals for Dr. Geo. W. Massamore).

The Baltimore 1904 directory listed J. Arthur Limerick as Successor to Gminder in the business of Military, Naval & Society Goods, located at 21 N. Liberty Street.

Token is 21mm

Brass





Baltimore July 15th 1880

The Police Commissioners of Balto.

Bought of JACOB GMINDER,

SILVERPLATER

And Manufacturer of Military Chains, Masonic & Odd Fellow Emblems.

Dealer in Fancy Hardware, Cutlery, Metals & Tools,

No. 10 South Calvert Street.

TERMS CASH.

To 100 Police Stars 90 00

July 15 1880 Rec'd Payment

Jacob Gminder

Bill from Jacob Gminder for 100 Baltimore City Police Stars (badges). This bill may be the one for the pictured badge from the author's collection.

Baltimore, January 11th, 1883.

This is to Certify, That I struck for DR. GEO. W. MASSAMORE, sixty-four Washington Medals, from the dies described by him in a circular, December 6th, 1882. The Medals struck were as follows:—21 each in silver, brass and copper, 1 in gold, I then destroyed the dies.

JACOB GMINDER,
No. 10 S. Calvert St., Baltimore, Md.

On this 11th day of January, 1883, personally appeared, Jacob Gminder, and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God, that the facts as set forth in the above statement are true.

JOHN WARFIELD,
Justice of the Peace.

1883 Certification by Jacob Gminder that he struck stated quantities by metal of Washington Medals for Dr. Geo. W. Massamore.

Mount Pleasant Golf Course Parking Tokens

By: Richard Kaminski

Exchange a coupon for a token----------

is the sign encountered as you drive up the steep winding road toward the clubhouse of the Mount Pleasant Golf Course, located within the city limits of Baltimore, just off Hillen Road.

Remove the coupon from the ticket dispenser and the electronic parking gate lifts to allow your vehicle to proceed through to the general parking area.

Just a little history !

Mount Pleasant Golf Course which is located on a portion of 260 acres was once the estate of Joseph Taylor, son of a Quaker merchant. The estate was established in 1650 under a charter from Charles Calvert, Third Lord of Baltimore. Upon first arriving, Joseph built a log cabin with a wall to protect against Indian attacks. The cabin was later transformed into a stone house and then again into a mansion. The mansion currently serves as the main clubhouse and although renovated over the years is one of the two recognized historical landmarks on the property.

The other historical landmark is the Taylor Chapel and Taylor Family Graveyard which are just southwest of the clubhouse among the trees. The estate was held in the family until the land became a tenant farm in 1915.

The development of the golf course started in the 1920's . The Park Board acquired the property between 1925 and 1926 for $ 129,769.00. Baltimore City Superintendent of Parks, George Leroy Nichols, insisted that a course be built. Mr. Tom Winton, a Scotch Golf Course Architect drew up original plans for a nine (9) hole course.

Ned Hanlon, former owner of the Baltimore Orioles Baseball Team circa 1890, who was then acting head of the Park Board, disagreed with Winton's design. Ned promptly sent out two of his staff members to make improvements. Mr. Bill Schreiber and Mr. Charlie A(Gus) Hook took to the fields and began hitting golf balls around the site to determine the best hole layout. Mr. Schreiber gathered books on grasses and soil conditions. He joined the Middle Atlantic Greenskeeper Association and consulted with other golf coures superintendents.

Mr. Hook , Superintendent of Parks, in conjunction with the Department Of Forestry, began the planting of 4,500 trees around the course. The depression had caused an economic slump but also created a vast labor pool. The Public Works Administration Emergency Work Bureau had been organized and thus Mr. Hook took on 400 to 700 relief workers in the 1930's. With hand picks and wheelbarrows, the design and

construction of the golf course began to take place. The end result was the design of a championship caliber course which was to become popular for the average golfer and the 4th largest park in the city.

Mr. Charles B. Wolf was designated as the engineer in charge of technical details. The work was completed in 1934.Dedication took place on April 26, 1937 and was acclaimed in a professional opinion as the " Finest Public Course". The formal opening ceremony took place on the front porch of the Taylor Mansion in the rain. Attendance was estimated at 1,500. Among the dignitaries present were Baltimore City Mayor Howard W. Jackson, Mr. C.K.Oakley, President of the Mount Pleasant Golf Club, Rev. Louis Vaeth to deliver the invocation, a host of buglers to sound the traditional assembly and Mr. Morton Mc I. Dukehart, founder of the Public Parks' Golf Association, from which the Mount Pleasant Organization evolved. Extensive press coverage was given to furnishings of the clubhouse and highlighted the exquisite facilities for both women and men. (Cost $.25 Weekdays: $.50 A Round Saturday and Sunday and holidays.
The highlight of the ceremony was when Mayor Jackson hit the ball off the tee.
To Quote Mayor Jackson ;
"Mayor Jackson is a mighty man with strong and sinewy hands who makes a golf ball answer to his executive commands. The fact that fifty yards was all the soaring pellet flew did not disturb hizzoner's form at least he followed through."

Life membership was extended to the Mayor and Mr. Dukehart. Mr. Schreiber went on to become the course professional (1936-1942) . The course formally opened to the public on July 1, 1937.

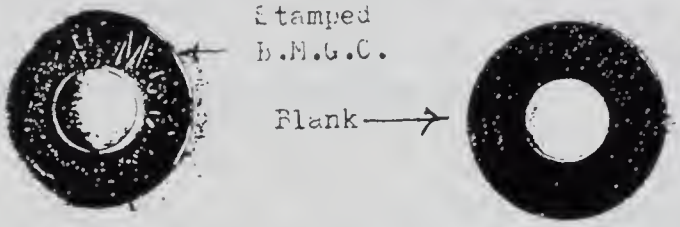
In 1939 the National Public Links Championship sponsored by the U.S. Golf Association was held on the Mount Pleasant Course. It was a major event in the golfing world .In 1956 the course was host to the acclaimed, at that time ," the biggest golf tournament".

The City eventually turned the golf course over to the "BMGC" by way of lease contract The "BMGC" began operating several courses around the City because the City maintained the maintenance was a heavy burden on the budget. With the improvements, came the desire to control the parking around the Mount Pleasant Clubhouse.
Thus the story now shifts back to the tokens!

The installation of a coupon dispensing machine was initiated. Upon entering the parking area , a coupon had to be obtained. Before leaving the parking lot the coupon had to be exchanged for a brass token. The token had to be deposited in a box at the exit of the lot to lift the parking gate. Based on all available information there were four tokens used in the series. The tokens started out as FANCY CAR TOKENS. EXHIBIT A:

But as these began to disappear the transition was made to an AMUSEMENT TOKEN / NO CASH VALUE. EXHIBIT B:

However as they began to disappear a ROUND BRASS Washer was substituted. The ROUND BRASS was stamped "B.M.G.C.". EXHIBIT C:



Finally as a last resort, as the stamped washers began to disappear, a PLAIN BRASS WASHER was finally utilized. EXHIBIT D:

Although all the reasons for the token disappearance are numerous, it is hoped that this article explained not only a bit of the history of the Mount Pleasant Golf Course but highlighted the utilization of the four known tokens used for parking control.

Authors Note: When I first encountered these tokens I asked about their history of the course. My trips to the GBGC ASSOCIATION yielded no information. A trip to the Department of Parks yielded no information. Special contact people yielded some information but no one was really positive. The files of the Enoch Pratt Library were a significant source of information.

I hope that some of the members visit the area as it is very scenic in the late spring and early fall.

Final Note:

Today the approach has changed!

The sign now reads:

PUSH GREEN BUTTON TO LIFT GATE.

The tokens are history.

Maryland Quarter Word Search
By Bob Ruby LM-7

C S N E K C I P D I V A D C A P I T A L D G N Y S E D
O K V B N O H J W S A E E O S H D V N S L B A L K Y A
M P A R R I S G L E N D I N G L O Q N D E X Z I E R B
M A S T I N M B R F B K Y A W X C M A N I G V E H E S
I W F R H W F R N V S A L C N O Y C P A H B A V G P R
S V K E R L I M E W K U Q S R E T U O X S K R N A J E
S G O A X Z E A R N T I L H N I Q P L O S O E U M E T
I E R S R A P E R D N L R A M A V F I Y N L L J Y K S
O R C U U I L E N O D A L T S T I W S R T S B N K R U
N E T R S I N R U K B I B S T E I R E W A B A R C E L
E C N E E G Q E D E E S R E A L N V O R H D R S B Y C
V P E R I T T V C F L N K O L J O N B T D M O T J T F
I T M S W Q A A C I R S N I D G E A T R S N N X E O A
T I E F C K Q R K N D G A E L N N E L Y B I O Y L S E
A D S A D R E G Y E V M I F D E B A J A M R H J W B L
R N R D T Y L N I A K A B N S Y O X P A L U K F O A K
O T O H E A S E V R T R N U E C T Y N S Y P Z Q R T A
M Y D U S F Z M A T B Y A Q I Y R O X B R O I T H W O
E R N E U G A W H S A L I N W N L A W K S A R W T K E
M I E A O C C A S W I A O V E R G O V N H I T E I L T
M S I C H Z R E H K N N R H N A N I R O S A N S W T I
O W A S E H O J A L B D C E S O E R E T N E G L N E H
C E Z W T P S O L I N M E V I E T E A F O J N T E R W
M S I O A N T X E N T R E T E T A T S E N I L D L O B
M C Z D T D Q I B R E N A N R B A R C M L O S E L R F
Z S C A S I W U O S E G T S G A I A N T Y N E I E Y R
Y T E T A G I F C N E N N D N E U U Q E A S M S Y N O
C O M M I T T E E L H I H C E S R Q M U N E O T R E T
T R S A C O M D E T C E L E S S Y E T A D I D N A C M
R E V A E V O D G E R D S N O I E K I R T S D I M H C

A total of 40 words are listed in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Puzzle contains proper names, along with terms associated with the Maryland Quarter. Have fun finding them and Good Luck.

Parris Glendening	Annapolis	Honorable	Capital
Kathleen Kennedy Townsend	Commission	Historians	Shield
Mary Ellen Withrow	Committee	Governor	Unveil
Paul Sarbanes	Delegation	Selected	Quarter
William Krawczewicz	Candidate	Maryland	Mint
David Pickens	Endorsement	Secretary	Dome
White Oak Leaf Clusters	Fort McHenry	Reception	Dove
Commemorative	Treasurer	Designer	Coin
Star Spangle Banner	State House	Fine Arts	Ark
Old Line State	Engraver	Strike	Die

Editor's Note: All the answers were published in the last Journal (Spring 2001) so as you work this out, don't peek until your finished. Sorry 'bout that!!!

The Devon Club of Luke Maryland

By W.Wallace Stone, R 47

Several days ago I was browsing through my old bound edition of the first three years of the Maryland Tams Journal and in Volume 11 No. 2, winter 1980 issue there were two articles dealing with the tokens of the Devon Club, at Luke Maryland. The first, by David E. Schenkman was about the manufacture and composition of these struck by the Ingle Schierloh Company. Most were struck and issued between April 1937 and November 1939. The second article in the same volume was by Richard Coy, NSCA was a reprint from SCRIP TALK, Vol.7, No.75,December 1980,offical publication of the National Script Collectors Association by permission of the author and Walter Caldwell, Editor. A history of the Devon Club is outlined and other information is related to Westvaco and the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company which was established in 1888 by William Luke and his sons on 50 acres of land known then as West Piedmont.

That day, the Washington Post newspaper of April 30, 2001, included an in depth story by staff writer David Snyder entitled "A Community Fast Fading into Md. Past". The story is reprinted here in its entirety.

At about 3 o'clock every weekday afternoon when the morning shift at the Westvaco paper mill lets out, th is dying town blooms with life. But soon, after the millworkers have filed out to their cars and roared down the valley to their homes and families, the familiar,eerie vacancy settles in again. A door somewhere slams. A lumber truck fat with wood rumbles past. The flags at the Luke city building, directly across the street from the sprawling mill, rattle in a wailing wind. The workers leave without stopping because in Luke, there's nothing to stop for anymore. No businesses, no churches, no schools. And increasingly, fewer people. Luke, population 80 in the 2000 Census, is on the verge of extinction after losing more than half its residents in the past 10 years. While Maryland has not stripped a town of its incorporated status in more than 30 years, Luke's town fathers say it could well be next.

Mayor Joseph LaRue,73, a former Westvaco employee, estimates that 90 per cent of residents are retirees living in houses built for large families. Few venture out of their homes. Some who left sold their property to Westvaco, which demolishes the houses to make way for parking lots and office buildings. There are a handful of children. "You hate to admit it," said La Rue, a white haired man with an easy smile and wire rimmed glasses, "but you got to face it; Luke is going. It's leaving. The town's decay mirrors the long decline of the logging and mining industries, once Western Maryland's economic lifeblood. But Luke also represents the death of the industrial-age notion of the "company town"–a place built by corporations to keep their workers housed, fed ---and loyal.

Unlike many company towns from Pittsburgh to Detroit that have foundered when their factories closed , Luke has become a de facto ghost town for the opposite reason—the paper mill, which produces 1,359 tons of paper every day, has grown ever more robust, slowly annexing the very town it founded at the end of the 19th century. No longer forced by geography and lack of transportation to live next to the mill, most workers commute instead . The need for parking has replaced the need for housing. Luke's old main street has vanished, now part of the mills

sprawling complex of warehouses, truck lots and air conditioned office buildings.

Westvaco (pronounced west-VAY-co) spokeswoman Patsy Koontz said the mill has demolished many of the houses because they had lead paint, and the cost of renovating them to conform to safety standards outweighs the financial benefits of renting them. "We're only purchasing homes whose owners approach us" she said . "We're not going out aggressively trying to buy up homes"

Westvaco–and, by extension, Luke–was founded by William G. Luke, a Scottish papermaker who came to Maryland and found, in the area that would bear his name, a convergence of the three most important components of paper milling: good coal, water and plentiful lumber. The mill did very well. One hundred and thirteen years later, Westvaco is a global operation with headquarters in New York City and offices in on six continents. Many paper mills in the region have died ; Westvaco's has not despite run-ins with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and regional outdoor groups over pollutants the mill leaks into the Potomac River.

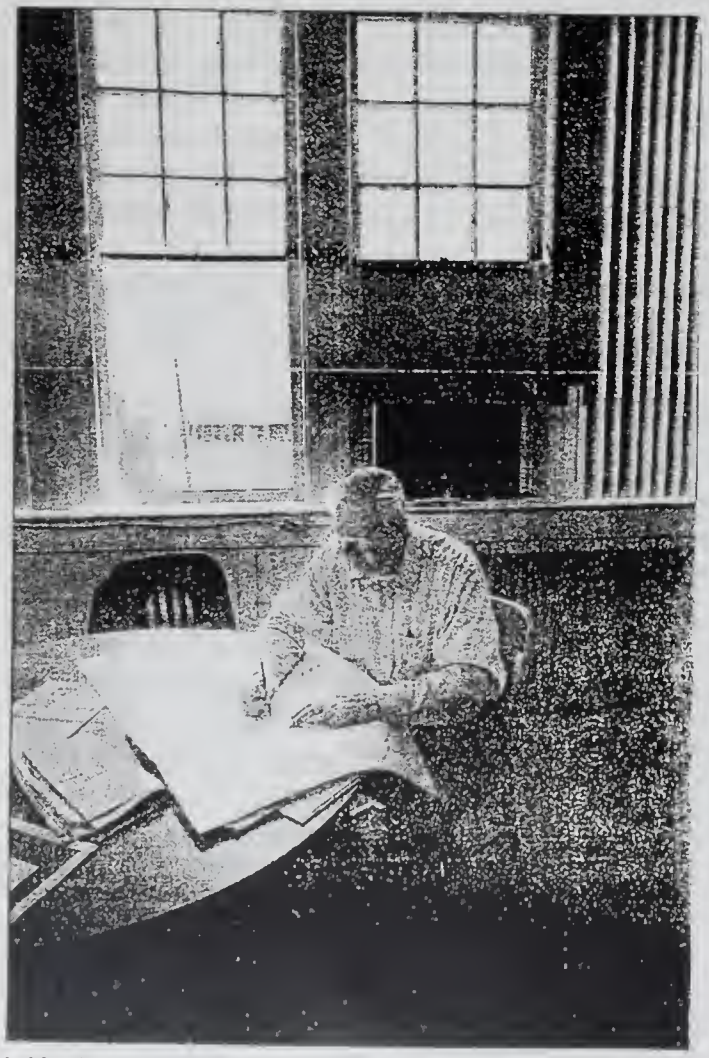
The company's chairman and chief executive officer, John A. Luke Jr.,is the company founder's descendant. When Luke was founded, mills and mines across the country had little choice but to build housing because they were distant from towns, and transportation was unreliable or too expensive for workers. These company towns were built with an understanding that companies would provide for employees in exchange for loyalty, said Kathryn Dudley, associate professor of American studies and anthropology at Yale University. "The idea that you're going to be taken care of in exchange for your loyalty is a notion that doesn't guide corporate policy anymore," she said. Today only 11 of the mill's 1,563 employees live in Luke. Many live in nearby Keyser, WV. or Westernport Md . But many of the longtime residents speak glowingly of "The Company." "Without the mill we wouldn't have anything;" Manuel Diaz,81 said. Diaz's father came to Luke from Spain in 1912. He was one of many European immigrants brought to the United States by Westvaco–then called the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co– to work in the mills. In Luke they found comfortable housing and constant work. Some vestiges of the old paternalism remain–residents pay almost nothing for water and steam heat provided by the mill. But the company store is long gone, and the company built recreation center was closed decades ago.

If a town fails to send financial reports to the state for three consecutive years–usually a sign that its government has succumbed to population drain–the state can declare the town dissolved, said Jim Peck, director of research for the Maryland Municipal League. The last time this happened was in 1964, when the state disincorporated three municipalities: Point of Rocks, Arundel -on- the- Bay and Solomons, Peck said. For LaRue and the members of the Luke Town Commission the specter of dissolution looms large. "It's a scary picture, truthfully," LaRue said as he hunched over a map of Luke in the city's red brick municipal building/ a school until 1953 and now a largely empty monument to the busy little town that Luke once was. The map shows the town as it was decades ago, with structures arrayed in rows radiating out from the mill. Red X's mark each structure that has been torn down. As LaRue studies the map, he notices more buildings that require the X. This one's gone. This one's gone. This one's gone, he said, firmly marking out houses where generations of Westvaco employees lived. "We sit here long enough they're all going to be gone"

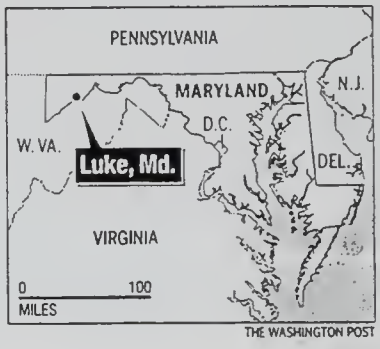
In 1930, when the census listed the town's population at 1,064, there was a town store, a bowling alley and several businesses. But it was always Westvaco that drove the town forward, or backwards, residents said. This town has always belonged to Westvaco said Audrey Nolan,88, who worked as a secretary for Westvaco for 31 years. "But I think eventually it will all just be the mill." Nolan and her husband live in a two story house across the street from Westvaco's massive complex of steam belching machinery. "The young people leave and they don't come back," she said as she sat in her kitchen, which looks out onto the neighboring house, identical to hers except that it is vacant. "Why would they ? There's nothing here."

It is interesting that after 21 years since the first articles about the Devon Club , in our Journal and todays story the town has all but left us. The Devon Club was in fact an organization for the employees of Westvaco and was actually owned and operated by the employees. The building was a large three story structure and the lower floor housed a bowling alley. Also within the building was a movie theatre, a pool table area , and a general merchandise section. Items which could be bought included clothes, tires, groceries, lawnmowers,guns, however no liquor was served or sold . The closing of the club came in 1975 and at that time the building was rented to a private citizen who operated a restaurant in part of the building for some time.

For a listing of the Devon Club tokens the Maryland Merchant Tokens book by David E.Schenkman are shown under the heading of Luke, Maryland .



In his office at Town Hall, Mayor Joseph LaRue looks over a plat of houses in the town. He keeps track as they are demolished.



This sign on a road leading into Luke may have to be amended in a few years.

PHOTOS BY JAMES A. PARCELL—THE WASHINGTON POST

Town Built by Company Is Fading Into Md. History

The Westvaco paper mill towers over the town it built to house its workers. But few of the workers live there now because they can commute easily from nearby communities. So, while the business is strong, the town is declining. The remaining residents are mostly retired, and Luke could well be the next town in Maryland to be stripped of its incorporated status.

Manuel and Christine Diaz have lived in Luke nearly all their lives. Manuel Diaz's father came to the Maryland town from Spain in 1912.

PER CHANCE A GOOD TOKEN

Once upon a time, tokens were thought of by coin collectors as just throwaways. Now, down here on the Eastern Shore there were some collectors that had filled all the penny books, nickel books, etc. and were still trying to feed that gnawing hunger that grabs all addicted collectors to add something to their collection on a regular basis.

Now, along comes some old timer with some tokens and a great story to tell about how at one time tokens were the same as hard currency to the local folk who worked in the canning factories, packing houses, and shucking houses that were so plentiful on the Eastern Shore. The amounts that the tokens were worth varied according to the year and the product.

The most basic of all tokens was a piece of metal with the owner's initials stamped on it. From there, the sky was the limit. J.F.W. Dorman in Baltimore began striking tokens for the more affluent and some of the tokens made their way into known catalogs listing merchant tokens throughout the United States. Some have even been catagorized into that lofty realm of civil war tokens.

And sometimes a little bit of history can continue on because of the information on a piece of metal no bigger than a U.S. quarter dollar. One such token is from Chance, MD. It has on the obverse of the token "BENNETT & WEBSTER, 2 GAL, 40 C, CHANCE, MD." The reverse is plain although both sides display a beaded boarder on the brass, octogonal planchet. Now it doesn't get any better than the information on this token. It tells us who the owners were, how much was paid for shucking 2 gallons of oysters, 40 cents, (all tokens with "GAL" are oyster tokens), and the name of the town and state it came from.

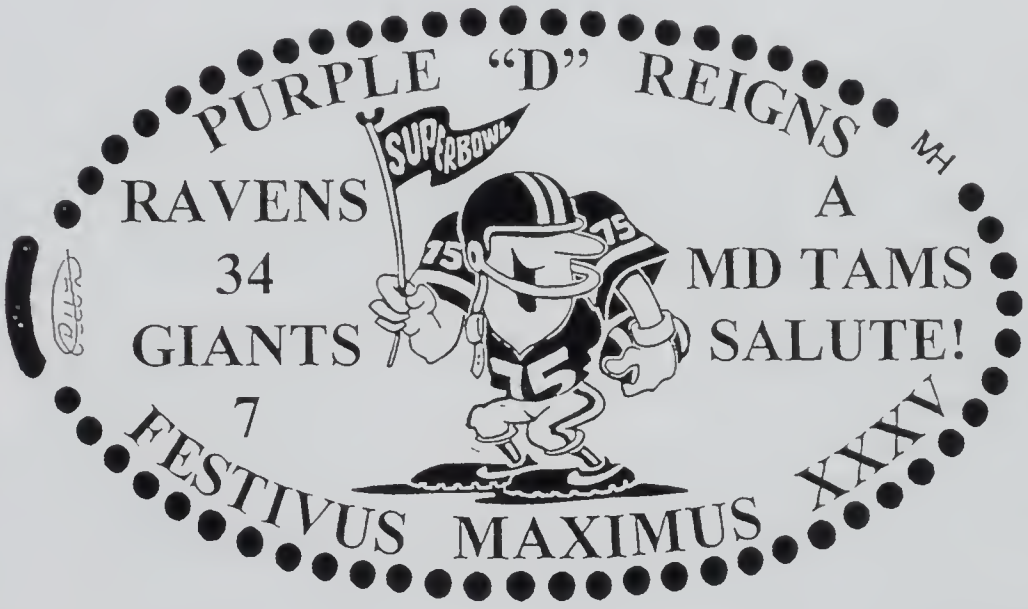
Chance is a small town on the Eastern Shore of Maryland just north of Deal Island. The story goes that a Capt. James Whitelock proposed Rock Creek as the name for the place, but postal authorities disapproved. He then proposed Chance, because chances were there wouldn't be a post office at all. Success was achieved, and the post office was named Chance.

So, after all is said and done, what are the chances of finding a token from Chance.

George Chevallier

MD TAMS honors the RAVENS!

MD TAMS honors the **Ravens Super Bowl victory** with a limited edition commemorative elongated coin. The quarter-size design was crafted by MD TAMS member **Mill Hajek** and is illustrated below.



A 7 **coin/token set** will be available at our MD TAMS Annual meeting on Saturday, June 16th at a cost of **$10.00.** Only **30 sets** will be available for this limited edition. The commemorative is rolled on the following:

U.S. Sacagawea Dollar
U.S. Maryland State Quarter
Coca Cola brass token from the San Francisco Trans Pan Exposition
Ocean City, MD. Fun City brass token
Ocean City, MD. Sportland Arcade brass token
Ocean City, MD. Funcade aluminum token
Ocean City, MD. Ocean Casino Arcade aluminum token

In addition a special Ocean City 5 token/coin set including the 4 Ocean City, MD. tokens and the Maryland State quarter will be available at a cost of **$5.00**. This set is limited to a total of **15 sets.**

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WANTED: MD TAMS MEMBERS WHO HAVE ACCESS TO E-MAIL. Please send your e-mail address to Bob Ruby, MD TAMS Treasurer at rwruby@yahoo.com I am updating the membership database to include e-mail addresses. Please advise if I may publish your email address in a future MD TAMS Journal. (Su01)

****

DO YOU HAVE WWI SERVICE MEDALS issued by states, counties, cities? Will pay highest prices or swap for them. Lou Small, Box 19262 MD, Jacksonville, FL 32245. (Su01)

HARD TIMES TOKEN SUPERCATALOG (9th edition) now being assembled. Release January 2002. Die varieties. Revised pricing. Help needed. Contact Russell Rulau, Box 153, Iola, WI 54945 (Su01)

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MARYLAND TOKEN and MEDAL SOCIETY, INC. – CLASSIFIED AD FORM

MAIL TO: **MD TAMS JOURNAL EDITOR**
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Please accept the following classified ad of 25 words or less for publication in the next issue of the Journal. I understand that the deadlines are:
Feb. 15; May 15; Aug. 15 and Nov. 15.

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Note to Editor: I have exceeded my **25 word free limit.** I understand I am charged at a rate of **10¢ per word** over this 25-word limit.
Enclosed is $ _____ for _____ additional words.

MD TAMS Now on the WEB

Bob Ruby, LM-7

Near the end of March, my wife told me that we were going shopping this weekend at the new Ollie's Bargain Barn that just opened in Hanover, PA. While we were there, she went looking at the items that she was interested in. Me, I went to the Book/Computer Section of the store. There, I found a $35.00 book (for .99 cents) on "How To Write in **HTML** (**H**yper**T**ext **M**arkup **L**anguage)". During the next 3 or 4 weeks, I spent some time reading, asking questions of my system programmers at work and trying to code in HTML. The result is that MD TAMS is now on the WEB.

During this project, I would like to say "Thanks" to Mill Hajek for his assistance in helping me update some of the files (he may have wrote them several years ago) and to Tom Palmer, **MSNA** ***Vice President*** for his help in testing and doing some final "tweaking" before sending it to the ANA. Last, but not least to Susie Nulty for posting it on the ANA web site. For those of you who are connected to the web, you may visit the MD Tams **URL** (**U**niversal **R**emote **L**ocator) at:

http://www.money.org/clubs/mdtams/mdtams.html

As for the shopping trip, I spent a buck; the better half spent almost $200.00. Seems fair!!!

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By Willard R. Mumford

With 184 pages and over 150 photos, this delightful book tells the story of truck farming in Anne Arundel County, an era ignored in Maryland history books and little known to most residents. The book also includes the most complete inventory of "picker checks" ever compiled. Listing over 400 farmers and 1500 different varieties of picker checks. Lovers of local history and genealogists, as well as numismatists will find this book enjoyable and an excellent resource.

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